**Subject Pronouns**

Subject pronouns are words that stand for proper nouns. They are the subject of the sentence, so they are the person or object performing the action. For example, in the sentence “Frida is crazy,” the subject is Frida. We can replace “Frida” with the word “she”: She is crazy. “She” is a subject pronoun—a word that replaces “Frida,” which is a proper noun. It’s the same in Spanish: **Frida** está loca, **ella** está loca.

**Subject Pronouns**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. I | 1. yo | 6. \_\_nosotros\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  7. \_\_nosotras\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | we  6. masculine or mixed group form  7. feminine form |
| 2. you (singular, informal) | 2. tú | 8. \_\_vosotros\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  9. \_\_vosotras\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | you guys in Spain  8. masculine or mixed group form  9. feminine form |
| 3. he  4. she  5. you (singular, formal) | 3. \_\_\_\_\_él\_\_\_\_\_  4. \_\_\_\_\_ella\_\_\_\_  5. \_\_\_\_\_usted\_\_\_ | 10. \_\_ustedes\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  11. \_\_ellos\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  12. \_\_ellas\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | 10. you guys (Latin America informal, Spain formal)  11. they (masc. or mixed group)  12. they (fem.) |

There are some major differences between Latin American Spanish and the Spanish spoken in Spain. Some pronouns are used to address different people, depending on the country. These explanations are more detailed below:

**yo**

“yo” means “I.” It’s the first-person, singular pronoun. It’s the same in Latin America and Spain.

**tú**

“tú” means “you.” It’s the second-person singular pronoun, and it’s informal—always used with someone familiar. It’s the same in Latin America and Spain.

**él**

“él” means “he.” It’s a third-person singular pronoun, and it’s masculine. It’s the same in Latin America and Spain.

**ella**

“ella” means “she.” It’s a third-person singular pronoun, and it’s feminine. It’s the same in Latin America and Spain.

**usted** or **Ud.** (sometimes **Vd.**)

“usted” (abbreviated as Ud. or, in older writings, Vd.) means “you.” This is not the same as *tú*. Usted is very formal. It should be used to refer to epople you’ve never met or do not know well, people of a respected profession (e.g., doctors, professors, police officers), and people who are older or of a higher rank than you are. It’s the same in Latin America and Spain.

**nosotros, nosotras**

“nosotros” means “we.” There are two forms of this pronoun—“nosotr**o**s” should be used for a group of men or a mixed group of both men and women. “Nosotr**a**s” is used when the group contains only women. It’s the same in Latin America and Spain.

**\*\*\*vosotros, vosotras**

“vosotros” means “you guys.” It has two forms, just like *nosotros*. The same rules apply: “vosotr**o**s” is used for a group of boys or a mixe group of boys and girls, while “vosotr**a**s” is used for a group of girls. It’s an informal word, meaning that you can use it to address a group of people who are familiar, or a group of people younger than you. Think of it as the plural form of “tú.” Vosotros is used exclusively in the country of Spain.

**\*\*\*ustedes, Uds.** (sometimes **Vds.**)

“ustedes” is the plural form of “usted.” You use it to talk to a group of people. It’s used differently in Spain than in Latin America.

LATIN AMERICA: “ustedes” is both formal and informal. You use it any time you’re talking directly to a group of people.

SPAIN: “ustedes” is formal. It’s the more formal form of “vosotros.” It’s what you would use to address a group of people who are older than you or to whom you must show respect (a group of doctors, professors, or police, for example).

**ellos, ellas**

“ellos” means “they.” It’s the third-person plural pronoun. “Ell**o**s” is used for a group of boys or a mixed group of boys and girls. “Ell**a**s” is used if the group contains only girls. It’s the same in Latin America and Spain.